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On Thursday, June 10th, we arrived at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in the heart of downtown Chicago. After unpacking and registering for the conference, we prepared for the Region 2 meeting that was held in the evening. This meeting was the beginning of the conference and was meant to serve as a social so everyone in the region can network with each other before the actual business portion of the conference began. After the Region 2 meeting, all of the medical students from around the nation headed to the AMA headquarters where everyone had an opportunity to network with each other.

On Friday, June 11th, the reference committee opened and all of the delegates from each of the medical schools came to debate on the resolutions that were presented to the medical students section of the AMA. Over 20 resolutions were discussed and pros and cons were given for each resolution. After the reference committee, all of the students present from the state of Missouri attended the Missouri State Medical Association-Medical Students Section meeting that was run by Nikoo Cheraghi. In this meeting, we discussed how we would vote for certain candidates at the following Region 2 meeting and future MSMA events. Next, we went to the region 2 meeting where we heard speeches from the people who were running for positions on the AMA governing council. In between the candidate speeches, the region 2 business meeting was conducted in which we discussed the future region meeting. After the region 2 meeting, all of the Missouri students went to the suite of Dr. Gibbons, who is a practicing doctor in Missouri
and also a member of the MSMA. He hosted all of the medical students and doctors from the state of Missouri who were present at the conference. This was a good opportunity for the medical students to network with the doctors from around the state.

On Saturday, June 12th, the reference committee reconvened again but this time to vote on the resolutions that had been debated the day before. This lasted the majority of the morning. After the voting, the specialty showcase began. Different medical specialties gave students information about the specialty, where to get more information, and some freebies from the specialty organization. This was very beneficial for us because we had the opportunity to explore many specialties that we are not normally exposed to. After the specialty showcase, we were invited to an alumni BBQ dinner in Chicago at one of the alumni’s houses. Dr. Drees also joined us as well as another alumni that was in the city. We learned about life after medical school and that our struggles now would translate into success in the future. Overall, the conference was an excellent learning experience and an excellent networking opportunity for the medical students who attended.